

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed September 2, 2004. To advance prosecution of this application, Applicants have responded to each notation by the Examiner. Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are in a condition of allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

The Non-Statutory Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-27 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over various issued U.S. Patents. The Examiner provides that a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) may be used to overcome this provisional rejection. Without conceding the veracity of the Examiner's rejection under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, and solely for the purpose of advancing prosecution in this case, Applicants file herewith a Terminal Disclaimer obviating the double patenting rejection.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner indicates that a patent number provided for one of the patents cited in Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is inconsistent with the issue date, applicants' name, and other data provided on the IDS. Applicants appreciate the Examiner citation of U.S. Patent No. 6,597,491 B2 in his Notice of References Cited (i.e., PTO form 892). Applicants submit that U.S. Patent No. 6,597,491 B2 cited by the Examiner was the reference that Applicants intended to cite in their IDS. Because the Examiner has cited and considered U.S. Patent No. 6,597,491 B2, Applicants will not submit a corrected IDS.

CONCLUSION

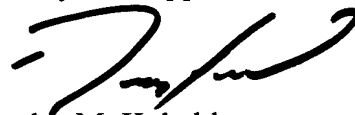
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending Claims.

Applicants have included a check for \$55.00 for filing a Terminal Disclaimer. Applicants believe that no other fees are due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If the Examiner feels that a conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, Douglas M. Kubehl stands willing to conduct such a telephone interview at the convenience of the Examiner. Mr. Kubehl may be reached at 214-953-6486.

Respectfully submitted,

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